

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 270

By Fincher

A RESOLUTION to recognize Chancellor Vernon Neal on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Neal is one such estimable person who served with distinction for twenty-six years as Chancellor of the Thirteenth Judicial District, having taken a much deserved retirement on August 31, 2006; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean born in Pickett County, Vernon Neal attended Pickett County High School and is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University and the University of Tennessee School of Law; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Putnam County since 1947, Mr. Neal operated a private law practice in Cookeville from 1957 to 1980, when he first won election to the position of Chancellor of the Thirteenth Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career on the bench, Chancellor Neal won the respect and admiration of both his judicial peers and colleagues and the attorneys and citizens appearing before his Court; and

WHEREAS, prior to his judicial service Vernon Neal also ably served as a member of the 83rd and 84th Tennessee General Assemblies from 1962 to 1966, representing the good people of Putnam County as a member of the House of Representatives for two terms; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Neal also won election to three terms in the Tennessee State Senate as a member of the 84th-90th Tennessee General Assemblies from 1966 to 1978, serving as Chairman of the Calendar and Rules Committee and as a representative on the Southern Education Conference; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, he is an active member of Midway Baptist Church, where he serves as Chairman of Deacons and as a Sunday school teacher; and

WHEREAS, his many professional and civic accomplishments aside, Chancellor Neal is most thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his loving wife, Mona, their three children, Belinda Mandrell, Jeffrey Neal, and Melissa Gogonelis, and their five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Neal epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Chancellor Neal has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Chancellor Vernon Neal upon his exemplary service to the good people of the State of Tennessee and extend our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.